

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: Jan. 16, 2008

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Idaho Labor's Engstrom Nationally Recognized

Assistant Deputy Director Jay Engstrom of the Idaho Department of Labor has been nationally recognized for his work in promoting and maintaining Idaho's Internet-based Career Information System.

The national Association of Computer-based Systems for Career Information awarded Engstrom a Certificate of Distinction at its annual convention in December for his instrumental role in solidifying the financial status of the Idaho system so it could continue providing critical information to more than 100,000 students and adults every year.

"Jay Engstrom's commitment to the Idaho Career Information System during his 13 years as a member of the board reflects not only the value he sees in the products we provide but also the importance the Idaho Department of Labor places on access to this kind of information to maintain and enhance the quality of our state's labor pool," System Administrator Christie Stoll said.

The Idaho Career Information System, at www.idahocis.org, was established in 1980. It offers a broad array of information unique to Idaho on jobs, career requirements, financial aid, schools and other sources for the education or training needed to qualify for hundreds of specific jobs. In addition, the system features components that help students and adults understand the links between education and employment and the kind of life their career choices will support.

Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter signed an executive order last fall transferring the Career Information System from the Division of Professional-Technical Education to the Department of Labor to capitalize on the research Labor currently develops on employment, wages and training. Legislation is pending to establish in law the agency as a component of the Labor Department.

Students in 93 percent of Idaho's high schools and 60 percent of the state's middle schools have access to the Career Information System to assess their futures and preferred courses of study, and it is used every year by thousands of job seekers working through the Labor Department's 24 local offices.

Idaho is part of a 17-state network that provides national and regional career information to compliment its Idaho-specific information.

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